

## REMARKS

The Examiner has restricted the above-captioned application to one of four claim groups: Group I comprising claims 1-6, drawn to a synthetic intermediate, Group II comprising claims 7-10 and 16, drawn to a method of preparing a phosphoramidate prodrug, Group III comprising claims 11, 12, 14, and 17-20, drawn to a phosphoramidate prodrug, and Group IV comprising claim 15, drawn to a method of preparing the compounds of Group I. Applicants hereby elect Group III for prosecution in this application. The Examiner indicated that if claim 13 is amended to properly depend from claim 12, claim 13 would be placed in the appropriate group. Claim 13 has been amended to properly depend from claim 12 by replacing the word “method” with the word “compound.” Accordingly, claim 13 should be placed in Group III (the elected claim group).

The Examiner is also requiring that the Applicants elect a species for prosecution in the application. Applicants hereby elect the following exemplary embodiment as the species for prosecution in the captioned application, compound 3 on page 14 of the specification. The claims readable on the elected species are claims 11-14 and 17-21.

In addition, claims 11-12, 14, and 17 have been amended to replace the term “prodrug” with the term “compound” to provide antecedent basis. Claim 18 has been amended to replace the term “compound” with the term “composition.” Claims 11 and 17 have been amended to delete the phrase “halo is chloro, bromo or iodo” because claims 11 and 17 do not recite an “halo” claim element. Additional minor amendments to the claims have been made. Finally, claim 21 has been added. Support for claim 21 can be found in the specification on page 14, lines 1-22.

The claims are believed to be allowable. Passage of the application to issuance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin L. McLaren", written in a cursive style.

Kevin L. McLaren  
Registration No. 48,351  
Agent for Applicants

(317) 231-7776  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204